

# EXHIBIT 2

COMMONWEALTH OF  
MASSACHUSETTS  
RE: P. O. THOMAS TAYLOR  
SPECIAL – 9/8/02

Sep. 8, 2002, 6:05 a.m.  
Boston Police Homicide Unit

PLEASE NOTE:.....dots indicate transcriber could not get what was said).

Conducting this interview is Det. Michael Primm, Boston Police Homicide Unit.  
Present is Sgt. Det. Timothy Duggan, Boston Police Homicide Unit.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT CONNOLLY

Q Okay. Today's date is September 8<sup>th</sup>, the year 2002. The time now is 6:05 a.m.

Speaking is Detective Mike Primm, of the Homicide Unit. We're currently  
located at the Homicide Unit. Also present is Sergeant Detective Timothy  
Duggan, of the Homicide Unit. We're interviewing Police Officer Robert  
Connolly, from Area C-II in regards to a police discharge that happened in the  
early a.m. hours on this date. Officer Connolly, would you say your first name  
and spell your last name, please.

A Robert Connolly, C-O-N-N-O-L-L-Y.

Q And were you working in the capacity of a police officer tonight?

A I was.

Q Do you know what unit you were in?

A I do.

Q Which was?

A The Harry 2-0-2.

Q Ah, would that have been a wagon or a police vehicle?

A In a police vehicle.

Q In a police vehicle. Ah, Boston Police marked vehicle, lights, siren?

A Yes.

Q And who was your partner?

A Ah, Debbie Flaherty.

Q Ah, were you the driver or the observer?

A The observer.

Q Okay. Early this morning were you in the area of Columbia Road and Hancock street?

A We were.

Q While at that area did you observe a vehicle make any motor vehicle violation?

A Yes, I did.

Q Could you tell us about that, please.

A Ah, me and Debbie were stopped at the red light at Columbia and Hancock going up Columbia when we noticed a car to our left make a crazy left turn and come beside us. Ah, it stopped along with us, but then it continued to go through the red light. Ah, me and Debbie looked at each other and we were like, Do you believe he just did that in front of us. Ah, at what time, at which time Debbie, ah, proceeded to go after the car, turn the lights on and siren on. Ah, the car was going so slow we thought he was going to stop, but he kept going. The car went like one or two streets up Columbia, took a right. I believe it was Perth Street. Made a bunch of lefts and rights. I don't know the area at all. Debbie knows the area well. She's worked there a number of years.

ah, I know towards the end of the, ah, towards the end of all this, ah, we had gone up, ah, Dunkeld Street where, ah, like I said, the lights were still on and we still had the siren on trying to pull this car over. Ah, we noticed a police officer at the top of the street get in front of the car to stop it. Ah, the car did not stop, it struck the officer in the front of the hood where he went up over onto the hood a little bit, and then as the car was taking the right onto I believe it was, ah, ah, what's the name of that street, ah, Fayston Street. Ah, he was hit on the right side of the car, he finally came down on the ground. We thought he got run over, his legs got run over. But they didn't. At which time I observed a police officer on the left side, the left side of the street, ah, discharge his gun a number of times. Ah, that happened. He was on the ground. At which point the officer that was hit was up and running now after the car that hit him. We were behind the officer that was chasing the car. That's when we lost the car because the officer was in the middle of the street. Ah, that car, ah, as we got down the street a little bit more the officer then started pointing down Perth Street. We drove down Perth. As we're driving down Perth we noticed that there was now a female on the ground half way underneath a jeep. We slowed down a little bit to see, you know, to see exactly what it was and we made that quick decision to keep going after the car that hit the officer and we'll just come back and get the girl under the jeep.. When we got back to Perth, back to Quincy we took a left onto Quincy and all of a sudden maybe two or three houses down there was the car up on the sidewalk

with all its doors open. We went down to where the car was and we are now at Quincy and, ah, I forget the name of the street?

Q. How about Dacia.

A. Dacia Street, right. Thank you. And, ah, then we stopped the car. She went to the car and I went to the right, cause right there at Dacia and Quincy there's like a garage or a building. I ran behind that to see if any, if I could see anybody running behind the building. Dacia Street and they were running down Dacia. Nobody. I quickly came back to where Debbie was and that's when she looked at me and said, "There's a female in the back." We went over to the female and she was lying down on the back seat, ah, and you could see blood on the back seat and, ah, that's when all of a sudden all hell broke loose and cars came from all over the place.

Q. Okay. Ah, thank you very much. I'm going to move you back a little bit and ask you a few questions. Okay? Ah, you say when the car took the left onto Columbia Road it took a crazy left turn. I know there's a rotary there.....(Not clear, both talking at once).

A. Right., If you come down Hancock towards Columbia right there at the Strand Theater you can always go to the right, there's like a cement, ah, barricade or cement sidewalk there where you can always take a right. You can stop at the light and you can take a left. He had bared off to the right and then took the left. That's when we noticed at the light you can see where the turn is and, I mean he could just have taken the left off of Hancock to Columbia. But he

went towards the right and then took a left.

Q All right. There's a set of lights there and proceeded right through that set of lights?

A Right. Well, he stopped with our light, because we were at the red light, and he proceeded through the red light.

Q Okay. Ah, you guys activated your lights and siren on various occasions to get the vehicle's attention?

A Lights were always on. Lights were always on. The siren we put on, you know.

Q At some point do you recall getting out of your vehicle?

A Right.

Q Okay.

A On Magnolia Street, ah, he had, the car had to come to a stop. We thought he was stopping. But all of a sudden we noticed that. I started to get out of the car and Debbie yelled, "Get back in the car", because all of a sudden we noticed that there was a car in front of him. That's why he had to come to a stop. So I jumped back in the car and that's when we took off again.

Q Okay. Officer Connolly, did you observe .....(Not clear) how many people were in the vehicle?

A I looked, I thought there was like five, at least six people, five or six people.

Q The car was full of people.

Q And do you know what type of vehicle it was?

A. It was a white Taurus, Ford Taurus.

Q. Did you guys give out a plate and description of the vehicle?

A. Yes.

Q. And did you give a description of any of the people in the vehicle?

A. No.

Q. Did you relate any of their nationalities at all?

A. No.

Q. Okay. It's fair to say that from the time at Columbia Road and Hancock Street until the time that the vehicle was found abandoned with the doors open except for the female in there the vehicle never submitted to your directions to stop?

A. Never.

Q. Okay. And it was quite obviously that you were trying to get the vehicle to stop?

A. Oh, absolutely.

Q. Okay. Ah, the officer that was struck he was in Boston Police uniform?

A. He was.

Q. Okay. Did you observe an officer attempting to get, that same officer attempting to get the vehicle to stop?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. Ah, did you hear him say anything?

A. Yes, because we were in the car, we were in the car and the siren was going.

Q. Okay.

A. I did see him. He was in the middle of the street with his hands up.

Q. Okay. For purposes of the tape Officer Connolly is describing a stopping motion with his hands. Ah, that vehicle didn't break or slow down for the officer, the vehicle continued on. Is that correct?

A. Correct.

Q. That is correct?

A. Correct.

Q. Okay. I believe you said the officer went up and over the car into the side.

A. ....(Not clear) Over to the right side of the hood down near the front wheel and then as the car's turning the corner even more the officer is being banged over the side of the car.

Q. Could you describe that officer that was hit?

A. A thin black male.

Q. Okay. Ah, it's fair to say you said you saw an officer firing several shots?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. Did you, if you know what was he firing at?

A. I believe the white car.

Q. Okay. And that is following what we now know to be his partner being hit that was following?

A. It happened like at almost the same time. The partner was going down, the car had turned and that's when the shots rang out.

Q. Okay. So I just want to be clear. The officer is getting struck by the vehicle



and on or about that same time the other, his partner, is?

A. Firing.

Q. Is firing at the vehicle. Okay. Where is the officer at that is firing?

A. He's. If you come up he's like towards the left. Cause now when we are at the street, when we are the Dunkeld and Fayston Street the car is right there and he's right there beside of the car.

Q. Was the officer to the front of the vehicle or to the side of the vehicle?

A. Off his car that's parked, he was on the side of the vehicle.

Q. On the side of the vehicle. All right. That officer had no way of knowing the condition of his partner after being struck by the vehicle?

A. I don't know. I don't know.

Q. Did you see either of those officers following the shots?

A. The officer, the officer that was hit had gotten up now and started chasing after the car.

Q. Okay. Did you see the other officer?

A. No.

Q. Okay.<sup>2</sup> At the time of this incident of the officer getting struck and the other officer firing besides you and your partner Debbie Flaherty were there any other police officers present at that time?

A. No.

Q. Okay. There was a female that you say you observed?

A. On Perth.

Q On Perth Street prior to getting the now abandoned vehicle. Is that correct?

A Right.

Q Okay. And naturally you had to make a quick judgment call and you still tried to apprehend the vehicle?

A The white Ford, right?

Q Okay. Ah, eventually did anybody get back to that female?

A Ah, because of all that happened when we got to the Ford with the girl in the back seat we never got back to the jeep. But moments later when all the units started arriving we had told them that there's a girl back on Perth under then green Jeep. From what we since have found out that they did get to her and the EMTs took her to the hospital.

Q Okay. The female that was injured in the vehicle did she have any paraphernalia on her that you know of?

A Ah, when the EMTs arrived they took her immediately into the back of the ambulance. Ah, and they started to take off her clothes, ah, they put, they were cutting off her clothes and that's when one of the EMTs came out to Sergeant Ciccolo and said, "Ah, you'd better. You may want to have someone come back here because drugs are falling out of her shirt."

Q Were you present when this was said?

A Yes.

Q Okay. Ah, do you have any idea how many shots you heard?

A I'm. Well, at least five. At least five.

Q Okay. Sergeant Detective Duggan.

SGT. DET. DUGGAN:

Q Ah, yes, I have a couple of questions. Officer Connolly, when, where is, ah, the officer you observed shooting is he on the sidewalk or in the street?

A Street.

Q Street. And, ah, his. The direction he's firing, ah, is he at the side of the suspect's vehicle or behind it?

A Behind it.

Q Okay. Ah, do you see any of those shots strike the vehicle?

A I didn't.

Q And, ah, following this is it fair to say you see the officer that is struck by the vehicle, ah, running down Fayston Street?

A Em hem.

Q Yes or no, sir?

A I'll say yes.

Q Okay. Does he direct you to take a turn, take a right onto Perth?

A Yes.

Q And at that as you head down Perth do you spot the vehicle then?

A No.

Q You've lost sight of it?

A Right.

Q You do see the female that's, ah, on the side of the street?

A Right.

Q What side as you head down Perth?

A On the left.

Q On the left. Ah, and then when you get to Quincy you take a left and you spot the vehicle slowly rolling?

A On the sidewalk with the doors open.

Q Okay. Do you see any suspects running?

A We don't.

Q Okay. Ah, when you initiate the, ah, the attempted stop of this vehicle and then the, ah, while you're following it how would you characterize the pursuit?

A Not crazy by no means. It was. At the first, at the start of this whole thing we were kind of laughing because it was so slow. You know, they weren't. You know, at one point we were just saying, just pull over. You know. It's just a fifty dollar ticket.

Q Okay.

A You know. And they just kept going.

Q Is it fair to say that prior to that when they pulled the, ah, the strange turn and pull up beside you -

A Em hem.

Q would you have any reason to doubt that they saw your vehicle?

A They couldn't miss us. We were right there. They pulled beside us.

Q Okay. That's all the questions I have.

DET. PRIMM:

Q. Okay. Ah, Officer Connolly, is there anything that we haven't asked you that you think may be relevant or important that we may have missed that you know of in regards to this?

A. No. That's all.....(Not clear) that's all that happened..

Q. Basically you think we've covered everything in regards to this?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. And you didn't know any of the people in the vehicle and you haven't seen them since, correct?

A. None of them.

Q. All right. Ah, we thank you very much for your time and your patience. The time now is 6:20 a.m., and thank you again, Officer.

A. Okay.

JS.....0.....